(b) Provision of drinking water in the problem areas.

(c) Implementation of Contingency Plans for production of alternate crops.

(d) Revamping, repair and restoration of irrigation schemes to generate additional irrigation potential.

(e) Augmentation of electric supply for irrigation purposes.

(f) Contingency Planning for prevention of epidemics and storage and distribution of fodder for cattle.

(g) Nutrition programmes for vulnerable sections of society like children, lectating mothers and indigents.

Financial Assistance for Agricultural Sector in Punjab

535. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Punjab has sought financial assistance for the development of agricultural sector; and

(b) if so, the decision of the central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b): Punjab Government have not sought specific financial assistance for any project on general agriculture development. Requests are made by the State Government from time to time for assistance/increase in allocation under various Central Government Schemes. In most of the cases, the State Government could receive favourable decision from the Central Government.

Public Investment in Agriculture

536. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a steep decline in the public investment in Agriculture since 1989-90 uptil now;

(b) what is the proposed investment in Agriculture in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(c) whether Government are confident of achieving 240 million tonnes of foodgrains production by the turn of the century; and

(d) if not whether Government have formulated contingency plans to meet the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Gross Capital formation in agriculture in public sector since 1989-90 is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

	At current prices	At 1980-81 prices
1989-90	3050	1157
1990-91	3480	1221
1991-92	3465£	1043£

£ Quick estimates